

Use by Grey Butcher-bird (*Cracticus torquatus*) of Wire-Netting as a Vice.—In November and December, 1953, I noted a young Grey Butcher-bird using wire-netting to assist tearing apart its prey. The method used was to jam the food into the angle caused by two bits of joining wire, thence dissecting it. Recently I have noticed probably the same bird acting similarly.

—P. SLATER, Coonana.

Occurrence of Pectoral Sandpiper (*Erolia melanotos*) at Reid.—On December 24, 1954, a Pectoral Sandpiper was observed feeding in a drain at Reid, 400 miles east of Kalgoorlie, 80 miles north of Eucla. Identification was based on the fact that the dark throat colouration was sharply demarcated from the white underparts, the legs were yellow and the bill appeared black over the whole length. In flight the bird gave a call similar to that of the Budgerygah. Observations were made with Zeiss 7 x 50 Binoctem and Delta 7 x 50 binoculars from five yards.

—E. McCRUM, Reid, and P. SLATER, Reid.

Occurrence of Western Silvereye (*Zosterops australasiae*) in Kalgoorlie.—Since taking up residence in Kalgoorlie in 1949, I have recorded the Western Silvereye on numerous occasions, usually in association with the introduced Pepper tree (*Schinus molle*). It is by no means common; local residents cannot recall having seen it before 1943 or thereabouts, at which time secondary growth was beginning to become noticeable in afforested areas. At about the same time, a general influx of honeyeaters was noted. The Silvereye is only noted in the immediate vicinity of Kalgoorlie.

—P. SLATER, Coonana.

The Carab, *Scaraphites humeralis*, at Wembley.—While collecting in the Wembley area on November 27, 1954, I found an insect which proved to be of some interest due to the fact that no previous record has been found of its presence on the mainland of Western Australia. This insect, a black carab, was identified at the W.A. Museum as *Scaraphites humeralis* Castelnau, a species generally recorded only from Rottnest Island. The insect was found in sandy soil under a log in the coastal woodland area, south-east of the City Beach traffic circus.

—SHEILA McCARTHY, South Perth.

Travel of a Banded Little Crow.—On June 1, 1954, the Fisheries Department received for identification from Mr. P. Wood, of Kalgoorlie, an immature individual of a Little Crow (*Corvus bennetti*). On the following day it was released at North Perth by Mr. J. Traynor after one of the Department's bands had been placed on its leg. The band was returned to us by Mr. C. F. Brewster who had recovered it from the bird when it was shot on September 22 at a locality 40 miles east of Narrogin and between Harrismith and Tinkurrin. This is 150 miles south-east from Perth and 250 miles south-west from Kalgoorlie.

—H. B. SHUGG, Fisheries Department, Perth.